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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/600,744
Filed: July 20, 2000
1st Inventor: H. Shimizu
For: Lyophilization Method for Sustained-Release Preparations
Atty. Dkt. No. 2501 USOP

Art Unit: 1616
Examiner: A. Pryor
Allowed:
Batch:
Paper No.:
JUN 7 2004
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ELECTION and AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 30, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.



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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 09/600,744 | |
| | Filing Date | July 20, 2000 | |
| | First Named Inventor | H. Shimizu | |
| | Group Art Unit | 1616 | |
| | Examiner Name | A. Pryor | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 13 | Attorney Docket Number | 2501 USOP |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
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| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual name | Elaine M. Ramesh, Ph.D., JD, Reg. No. 43,032 |
| Signature | <i>Elaine M Ramesh</i> |
| Date | 5/28/04 |

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